



**Price of a barrel  
of petroleum  
today:**  
**US\$ 42.50**

## INSIDE TODAY

### WORLD NEWS

#### PLANE CRASH

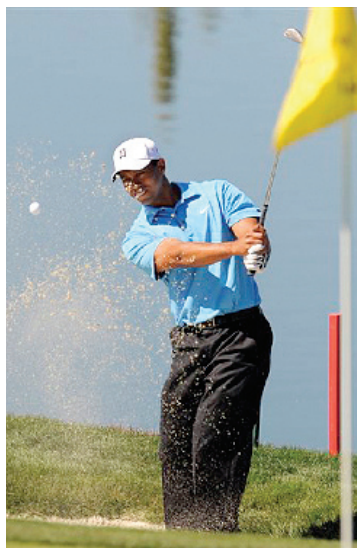


Survivors of the Turkish Airlines aeroplane crash are evacuated in a bus, as the plane wreckage is seen in the background, top left, at Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport on Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2009.

See *INTERNATIONAL NEWS*

## SPORTS NEWS

#### UNDER-MATCHED



Tiger Woods blast from the bunker on the third hole during the opening round of the World Golf Championships Accenture Match Play Championship Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2009, in Marana, Ariz.

See *Sports Today*

*The sky is the limit!*

## The tradewinds picks up the bill with Engysol's wind turbines

ORANJESTAD - A windmill that generates energy behind your house, the tradewinds picking up the bill. This is the solution of the future to your sky high monthly electricity bill. On windless or rainy days, 'normal' energy is used, but during the rest of the time it will be nature's bounty that does the work. That is what Engysol NV, a new local company, is promising. The first wind mill will be installed in March; we'll keep you posted!

Engysol is the company of engineer Freddy Vargas (30), who was born in Colombia, but who grew up on Aruba. He has studied in Holland.

*Continued on Next Page*



## J.W. Marriott Jr. Visits Marriott's Aruba Surf Club Sales Gallery



Mr. Bill Marriott is pictured center flanked by Bettina and Theolinda to the right and Noanni, Andy and Ron to the left.

*Photo by Julia Renfro*

PALM BEACH ARUBA – February 18, 2009 was a very special day at the Marriott's Aruba Surf Club for the entire Sales and Marketing team. As part of a one day island visit with a full tour throughout all Marriott properties in Aruba,

Mr. J.W. Marriott Jr., Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Marriott International Inc. (NYSE:MAR) paid a visit to the Marriott's Aruba Surf Club's Preview Gallery, located at the Marriott's Aruba Ocean Club. During this visit,

the marketing and sales team, together with the contracts and accounting departments as well, had the opportunity to personally greet Mr. Marriott, take a picture with him and hear him praise the entire team for the excellent work done in promoting and selling Marriott's vacation ownership in Aruba.

This is Mr. Marriott's second visit to Aruba since the last in February 2005.

His visit also included a tour of the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino and the Renaissance Aruba Beach Resort.

The sales of Marriott's Aruba Surf Club started in August 2002.

*Continued on Page 7*

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## The tradewinds picks up the bill with Engysol's wind turbines



**Continued from Front Page**  
During the past three years he has been an MTS teacher on Aruba, but in August 2008 he took the step to start his own firm. With his technical background and specialized in renewable energy, Freddy is Proven Energy's Caribbean

supplier, the world's leader in the field of small wind turbines. Currently Proven Energy is branching out and it is conquering the world as we speak, starting in the US, South America and the Caribbean. This British firm has already a thirty year-experience in

Europe; it has built up a global reputation for reliable turbine performance. With the world's focus on green energy and with President Obama behind it all the way, wind turbines and solar energy will be the road of the future for sure. "These wind turbines sell



themselves," explains Freddy. Although the initial cost is the same as one would pay for a compact car, the figures tell their own, lucid story. "One pays off a wind turbine in 5 to 7 years, but its lifetime is 25 years minimum. Your electricity bill from Elmar will be reduced by 70 to 80 percent, making the investment very sound indeed." The windmills are between 6.5 and 15 meters high, making them ideal to catch the free energy from the wind.

"The only extra costs for the client are the foundation for the turbine and an annual maintenance visit." The wind turbines are made of

super durable marine quality stainless steel and they have flexible blades that adapt to any wind condition. They function even during hurricanes, is Engysol's promise.

With engineer Vargas' know-how and the financial backing of a group of investors, Engysol looks ready to fly high. If you wish to know more about Engysol's wind turbines, please look up [www.engysol.com](http://www.engysol.com) or [www.provenenergy.com](http://www.provenenergy.com). One can also mail to [info@engysol.com](mailto:info@engysol.com) or call 592-9779 (Freddy Vargas). The wind mills come in three different sizes. Remember: the sky is the limit when it comes to wind energy! □







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amazonia-aruba@setarnet.aw

# Prime-Minister visited by student rep. of Passaat



ORANJESTAD – On Wednesday morning, Prime-Minister Nelson Oduber was visited by a student named Ms. Silvia-Monica Semeleer, whom is currently studying Fiscal Law at Erasmus University in Rotterdam. Moreover, Ms. Silvia-Monica Semeleer is a member of the board for the Antillean and Aruban Student Organization

“Passaat” in Rotterdam. The true purpose of this meeting was to explain to our Prime-Minister Oduber what the purpose is and what the functions of “Passaat” are for the students in Rotterdam and at the same time to strengthen the bond between the “Passaat” organization and the Aruban

Government. On this occasion Prime-Minister Nelson Oduber wished Silvia-Monica Semeleer success in all her endeavors and studies, and also commended her for all the good “Passaat” is doing for the Aruban students in Rotterdam. □

## Patrons love the Chocolate Bombe at Matilde Restaurant



ORANJESTAD - Marie Allen and Michael Douglas has been coming in Aruba for the past 15 years and felt in love with Matilde Restaurant. “We just love it,” they said and even combine their trip to the restaurant to meet their favorite Elizabeth. Here is Mr. and Mrs. Douglas enjoying our dessert of the day: Chocolate bombe served wit strawberry ice cream.

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# Waterfront Crabhouse hosts a daily happy hour



ORANJESTAD -- This wonderful seafood restaurant - it has the largest lobster tank in the Caribbean - hosts a daily happy hour from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., in honor of the Carnival season. All drinks are at half prices says owner Roy Leitch,



Try the crusted shrimp baked with a light crust of fine herbs, bread crumbs and Parmesan cheese, and served with marmalade and horseradish sauce. The meal is worth the trip to town. The restaurant serves breakfast - then lunch and dinner until



*Bingo your way to \$5,000*

## Friends of the Handicapped host a charity bingo Tonight!

ORANJESTAD – On Thursday February 26<sup>th</sup>, Friends of the Handicapped (FOH) is hosting a charity bingo at the Renaissance Conference Center at 8 p.m. Tickets are Awg 20 / \$12, and will be on sale from 5 p.m.

Ten games will be featured with prizes ranging from Awg 250 to Awg 750 for each game. The last game offers Awg 5,000.

Friends of the Handicapped, an organization made up of tourists wintering in Aruba at the low rise hotels has been collecting funds for Aruba's handicapped residents since 1987, and has raised to date over US\$1,000,000.00

The funds are donated to various organizations caring for the socially, physically and mentally handicapped residents of Aruba, with 100% of the proceeds given back each year at the end of the winter season.

Please support FHO, it is a worthy cause, comes and have fun playing bingo at the Renaissance Conference Center with a chance to win Awg 8,650. - as well as valuable door prizes



including beer and wine.

The Waterfront Crabhouse has an ambiance that could be Michigan Avenue, Beverly Hills or Upper East Side. The garlic crabs are great, the Alaska king crab wonderful, and the lobster fra diablo is really hot stuff!

Happy Hour at the Waterfront Crabhouse delivers the opportunity to relax with friends, family members or colleagues at the end of the work or vacation day, and who knows the aromas wafting from the kitchen might entice you to stay for dinner.

10 p.m, sixteen hours of great food and friendly service. You might know the restaurant operators already since they also take care of the Tortuga, at Aruba beach Club and Turtle's Nest at Costa Linda beach resort, and have for over 20 years worked for the Divi resorts in the Caribbean

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# Law firm to file class action suit against Stanford Group

WILLEMSTAD, Curacao, - A law firm in Curacao is taking legal action against Sir Allen Stanford's Group on behalf of investors who have lost access to their money in light of the billionaire businessman's alleged fraud.

The largest law firm in the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba, HBN Law, has indicated that although it is unclear what the effect of the freezing of the Stanford Group's assets will have for investors outside the United States, it will be filing a class action suit.

It will be seeking to hold Stanford's Group liable for the consequences of the alleged fraud and, where possible, take steps to recover the money.

"Part of the prejudiced investors appears to be residing or be domiciled in the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba. A number of them already applied to HBN Law for legal assistance," the firm said in a statement published on its website.

"HBN Law will look after the interests of the aggrieved parties that apply to it in this matter in the United States, in Antigua and elsewhere in the world, in a structured way."

The law firm said it would be contacting and consulting with the financial supervisory agencies in Antigua, as well as the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in the United States which filed the charges against Stanford, "in order to ensure that the aggrieved parties represented by HBN share in a lawful way in any possible payments".

HBN said it would also bring in competent lawyers in jurisdictions in which the Stanford Group and others involved reside or have assets, in an effort to have the money returned.

Investors not only in Curacao but in other countries where Sir Allen's companies did business must wait to see, after

receivers have done their jobs, if they will have access to the US\$8 billion in certificates of deposit which the Antigua-based Texan sold them.

The SEC has claimed that Sir Allen, along with his Stanford International Bank Ltd, Stanford Group Company, Stanford Capital Management and two of his senior executives collected the money from clients on the basis of false promises of high returns. □



# congrats

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# Christy Garrido is the new Director of Sales at Divi Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort



**PALM BEACH** – Divi Resorts is proud to announce the appointment of Christy Garrido to Director of Sales, at Divi Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort. The resort just recently opened some rooms in the new towers, as part of the Divi Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort expansion project which includes four eight-story buildings. The new rooms, in studio, two and three bedroom

configurations are decorated in a contemporary Caribbean style with chic white bedding and dark wood furniture. Christy, now at the helm at the sales office reports that the curtain will also soon go up on a new collection of restaurants, pools and tropical grounds and sparking most excitement is Pure Beach, a casual café with a European beach club aesthetic, encircled by the waters of the freeform pool retreat.

Overlooking the Divi Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort, the new sales office perched on top of Pure Beach, affording great ocean views, and a taste of paradise to those touring the property. Christy and her staff of 27, will be headquartered there. Christy shares that she has been with Divi Resorts for 16 years. She started as an in-house sale representative and worked her way up, committed and determined to share her love for Aruba with new Divi

members. The proud mother of two has an 8-year old girl, Alexia and a teenage son, Alejandro, 16, and a good circle of family members and friends who support her ambition to excel. With a major in Psychology, Christy understands the need of people to vacation, rest and reconnect with their loved ones, and with tons of new inventory available for sale at the new Divi Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort she intends to

make many people happy. “It’s all part of the makeover of our resort collection,” she says, “with new suites, new restaurants, golf villas, spas, condos and more, Divi undertook an investment of \$115 million thus far, upgrading facilities and amenities to provide a higher quality vacation experience, and becoming the true champion of Caribbean vacations. [www.diviarubaphoenix.com](http://www.diviarubaphoenix.com)

## Thomas & Lori Green honored at the Holiday Inn Sun Spree Resort



**PALM BEACH** - Recently at the Holiday Inn Sun Spree Resort, Aruba vacationers were presented with honorary titles created by the Ministry of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guest visiting Aruba for ten and 20 consecutive years. Special friends of Aruba, enjoying ten or more annual vacations here, are given the Distinguished Guest certificate and those with twenty consecutive years are awarded the Ambassador of goodwill title. The recent honoring was effected by the Aruba Tourism Authority associate Ricardo Croes at the Holiday Inn Sun Spree Resort which they call their home away from home. Thomas & Lori Green were honored as a Distinguished visitor for the Island of Aruba after coming to the Island for 11 years. Pictured: Mr. Ricardo Croes together with Thomas & Lori Green and also Cristina from the Holiday Inn Sun Spree Resort. □

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## CHARITY BINGO FOR FRIENDS OF THE HANDICAPPED

**Place: Renaissance Conference Center**  
**Date: Thursday, February 26, 2009**  
**Time: 8:00 p.m.**  
**Price: AWG.20.00 / US\$12.00**

**Tickets are available at 5:00 p.m. at the Convention Center**

DOORPRIZES	Game # 1 --- AWG. 250.00
	Game # 2 --- AWG. 250.00
	Game# 3 --- AWG. 300.00
	Game # 4 --- AWG. 300.00
	Game # 5 --- AWG. 400.00
INTERMISSION	
DOORPRIZES	Game # 6 --- AWG. 400.00
	Game # 7 --- AWG. 500.00
	Game # 8 --- AWG. 500.00
	Game # 9 --- AWG. 750.00
	Game # 10 --- AWG.5,000.00



# J.W. Marriott Jr. Visits Marriott's Aruba Surf Club Sales Gallery



the Marriott's Aruba Ocean Club on Palm Beach; open seven days a week from 8.30am to 6.00pm. A division of Marriott International, Inc. (NYSE: MAR), Marriott Vacation Club International is the recognized leader in vacation ownership worldwide with over 396,000 owners and 11,154 units around the globe. □

Photos by Julia Renfro



Continued from Front Page

The construction of the entire 450 unit-project boasting distinct and exclusive views was completed on schedule and was officially opened in February of 2007. Combined with the resort villas at the adjacent Marriott's Aruba Ocean Club, Marriott currently has the island's largest timeshare property.

For more information on Marriott's Aruba Surf Club, visitors can call 586-2641 or stop by the sales gallery at



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*The New 2009 Production of the Let's Go Latin!*

The elegant Crystal Theater sparkles with all the excitement of Las Vegas as the magnificent **HAVANA Dance** takes the stage. A thrilling mix of Latin/Cuban music, colorful costumes and high energy modern/traditional Cuban dance.

**HAVANA Dance** is the biggest stage production in the Caribbean featuring true Cuban dancers and entertainers directly from Havana. Don't miss it!

Show time: Tuesday - Saturday at 9pm  
Ticket Price: \$49 / Children under 12 pay \$25  
Dinner Show package at L.G. Smith's Steak and Chop House \$89

For reservations and information, please call 583-6000 ext. 6115 (between 9am till 5pm) after 5pm please call 583-6000 ext. 6357  
Tickets available at concierge desks and the box office at the Renaissance Resort.

## 15% discount

Bring this ad at the Box-Office of the CRYSTAL Theater at the Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino and get 15% discount. Box-office open from 02pm till 09pm from Monday through Saturday.

### The hottest Cuban show ticket on the island!

**SHOW DATES: TUESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY**

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**GREAT SHOW, GREAT STEAKS, GREAT SERVICE, GREAT PRICES**

Open daily from 5:30pm until 11pm  
Recommended seatings 5:30pm - 6pm - 6:30pm  
For reservations call 523-6195  
Located next to the Crystal Casino

\*Price includes show ticket and 3-course dinner show menu



Seafood as you've not had before

## Moby Dick's brings dishes from the sea

PASEO HERENCIA – inside is studded with Moby Dick's has one mission; to take you to the depths of the blue ocean to taste some of the most exquisite dishes to come from the deep. What a truly beautiful restaurant this is, and what a unique interior to match. The



runs along the complete wall. The menu promises to be a true seafood lovers dream. Lobsters, fresh fish fillets, shrimps, Moby Dick's has everything on the menu. There is of course a land lubbers section for those who are so disposed. The wine list is impressive to say the least, and the cocktails are definitely worth a taste. Moby Dick's is open for lunch as well. The chef has made a well rounded, extensive menu for you to choose from. You will find what you want, whatever your craving may be at that time. The staff is amongst the friendliest on the island, ever so attentive to your every whim. So long story short, for unbelievable seafood in unique surroundings, go to Moby Dick's. You'll have a whale of a time!



**For More information and Reservations**      *Call: 586 8333*

## NOBUSHI: Sushi Ladies' Night at Paseo Herencia



Nobushi brings to Aruba the finest sushi. At Nobushi, every single piece gets the love and attention it needs from the professional Sushi chefs. Nobushi Sushi Bar & Asian Cuisine features a variety of sashimi, sushi rolls, chicken, fish and meat entrees that will enlighten your senses. Tonight, every lady gets a free Sushi.

**Call: 586-2211 or ask your concierge.**

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More than just the best pizza on the island...

## Casa Tua's highlight of the day: Ossobuco that melts in your mouth

PALM BEACH - Neatly tucked away on Palm Beach in the Arawak Gardens, Casa Tua presents a fresh approach to dining in Aruba. The outdoor atmosphere is cool and relaxed; the name says it all "Casa Tua" meaning "Your Home" in Italian.

Today's highlight of the menu is the Ossobuco di Vitello con Tagliatelle which is a mouth watering Veal Ossobuco (shank) stewed with red wine, parsley, Rosemary, oregano, onions and lemon juice served with the most unique Tagliatelle. After the first bite, patrons are seen pinching themselves to see if they are dreaming or actually taking a true bite of seventh heaven.



**Casa Tua Palm Beach**  
open from 5pm to 11pm.

**Casa Tua Downtown**  
open from 11am to 11pm,  
Sunday from 5pm to 11pm.

For more information or reservations please call below  
or ask your concierge **Palm Beach: 586 8470**  
**Downtown: 588 5695**

Every Friday

## The Mexican Fiesta Dinner Sail is a must do activity

Experience the fun and excitement of sailing Mexican-style aboard one of Red Sail Sports' luxurious catamarans. The 2-hour sail takes you along Aruba's scenic coastline, while being delighted by live Mariachi Music.

This vibrant unforgettable sail provides a casual Mexican Buffet Dinner and a complimentary bar featuring Coronita beer, Margaritas, and Tequilas. Watch the sun set, the colors of the sky change and the island slowly light up. This is the perfect sail to celebrate the end of a Caribbean day and the start of a fun filled Caribbean night.



To make reservations call 586-1603 or go to [www.redsailaruba.com](http://www.redsailaruba.com).

Be sure to visit one of Red Sail Sports' stores for the latest in swimwear, beach essentials, T-shirts and souvenirs.

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**red sail sports.**



## Driftwood Authentic Aruban Seafood Restaurant offers diners the ultimate dining experience in freshly line caught fish.

ORANJESTAD - Why should seafood enthusiast and other diners alike go to Driftwood Restaurant? Well let's start by mentioning that their fish is caught daily by the owner himself and prepared by a local chef. "Just like mama makes it." The food is fresh, the staff is friendly, and the place is definitely buzzing. If you want to catch your own fresh fish and can't stay for a sit-down dinner, enjoy their Charter Fishing trip and have them prepare it for you. Trust me; it doesn't get any fresher than this: From pier to plate as their motto says.



Fried fish would be the common choice, but you can get your entrée broiled, grilled or baked. However you can indulge in the more guilty options for lobster, Alaskan king crab legs, grouper, shrimp, Black Angus tenderloin and so forth. Ease your

conscience and add a salad or go all out and try their delicious crab cakes, fish soup, garlic escargots, lobster crepe and coconut shrimps before your hearty entrée.



While seafood stars at Driftwood, fish-phobic diners will not go hungry. They have a staggeringly vast menu, which doesn't miss much of anything, from authentic Aruban seafood, lobster, Alaskan king crab legs to chicken, lamb or steaks.

**Q:** Why do we serve only fresh line caught fish?

**A:** How fresh would you be after a net caught fish frozen import from Asia?



Driftwood restaurant has a long tradition of serving the best seafood and steaks for over 20 years!

Don't forget to make this a must dine at restaurant while on vacation, you are sure to indulge in some great tasty seafood.



Restaurant information and reservation: open daily (closed on Tuesdays) from 5pm-10:30pm. Tel. 583-2515. Located at Klipstraat 12 in the heart of downtown Oranjestad, within driving distance from the resorts. □



**FRESH FISH TONIGHT?**  
...AT DRIFTWOOD RESTAURANT  
T. (297) 583-2515

## "Aruhiba" Aruba's homemade cigar



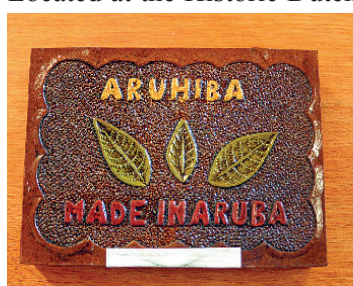
ORANJESTAD - Benjamin Petrochi has started the newest

export product of Aruba, locally produced cigars called 'Aruhiba'. These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrochi has always had an interest in the cigar business and has also sold cigars from outside, and now he is growing his own tobacco crop. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba he started his own production and cultivation of "Aruhiba" cigars in Aruba. The process took 5 years Petrochi's dedication to the cigars is important for the molding and



process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. The cigar case is specially designed for the cigars with the logo 'Aruhiba' and 'Made in Aruba'. Petrochi considers 'Aruhiba' a promotion for Aruba through fine quality cigars.

The company sells international cigars as well. Buy a gift box of Aruhiba Corona with five cigars and get 1 free for \$35.00. Located at the Historic Dutch



Windmill from 9am to 8pm. Open on Sunday. And also at Tamarijn: open 9am - 5pm and Sunday from 9am to 1pm. The only place to get Aruhiba and all major credit cards accepted. We have homemade and best premium Cuban Cigars. All cigars are legal through costum. Call 586-7833 or 593-6177. Open for tour operators and we have a large parking space. Come and see Mr. Petrochi rolling the cigars everyday.





*Thoroughly Impressed with the Grandeur and Beauty of Our 55th Carnival*

# Prime Minister Oduber loves Aruba's Carnival



## Arthur & Judy Lebowitz honored at the Westin Resort



PALM BEACH - Recently at the Westin Resort, Aruba vacationers were presented with honorary titles created by the Ministry of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guest visiting Aruba for ten and 20 consecutive years. Special friends of Aruba, enjoying ten or more annual vacations here, are given the Distinguished Guest certificate and those with twenty consecutive years

are awarded the Ambassador of goodwill title.

The recent honoring was effected by the Aruba Tourism Authority associate Ricardo Croes at the Westin Resort which they call their home away from home. Arthur & Judy Lebowitz were honored as an Ambassador of Goodwill visitor for the Island of Aruba after coming to the Island for 25 years. □

ORANJESTAD Prime Minister Nelson Oduber was present at the Grand 55th Carnival Parade in San Nicolas and in Oranjestad and he was genuinely impressed by how luxurious and grand the parades were. This goes to show that millions and millions of guilders was invested in the 55th Carnival celebration in Aruba, which made our Island shimmer.

While standing at the side of the parade, many onlookers approached the Prime-Minister of Aruba, Nelson Oduber to commend him and enjoy the 55th Carnival parade with him. The Prime-Minister also made use of this opportunity to approach other citizens and share with them in the fun of Carnival by going down, "Bay Plat" like they say here in Aruba. The Prime-Minister was pleased with the level of public order that was maintained throughout the weekend and would like to thank the Aruban Community for their cooperation. □





# Wine & Food Pairing at L.G. Smith's Steak & Chop House



ORANJESTAD – Romar Trading conducted an informative afternoon at L.G. Smith's Steak & Chop House to further enhance wine & food pairing knowledge among members of management and staff. Wine expert Clive Faustin lead an engaged and

interested group through a series of tastings, suggesting perfect combinations with many of the restaurant's delectable dishes.

As seen in our pictures, it was a much-enjoyed and appreciated afternoon.

L.G. Smith's Steak & Chop



House also extended a warm invitation to some press members who took part in the interactive afternoon, sipping and munching with great enthusiasm. Chef Michael Gomez treated tasters to delicious cheese and fruit platters; Restaurant Manager Michael Ras and Sales & Customer Service Coordinator Francois Maduro, helped host the party.

Among wines tasted and enjoyed 2003, Planeta Chardonnay, and 2002 Planeta Merlot, both from Sicily; 2005, Ruffino Chianti Classico; 2005, Marques

De Casa Concha, Cabernet Sauvignon, and a 2005 Syrah, also by Marques de Casa Concha, from Chile; 2006, Starmont Chardonnay, Napa Valley and 2007, Sonoma Cutrer, Russian River Ranch Chardonnay. L.G. Smith's Steak & Chop House continues to serve its delicious Sumptuous Sundowner every evening offering a new dinner option, from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Visitors who wish to dine early receive great value at the classic downtown dining spot featuring a choice of the most tempting Cream of

Vegetables, Caesar Salad or Fried Calamari with Marinara for starters, followed by wonderful main course selections such as Surf and Turf - Garlic Shrimp paired with U.S. Prime Cut Steak; Grilled Certified Angus Beef ShishKabobs; Pan-fried Mahi-Mahi with Mango Salsa, or Chicken Breast Picatta served over Fettuccini. Each entree is escorted by two different side dishes of the patron's choice, and accompanied by a glass of Concha y Toro's Casillero del Diablo Chardonnay or Merlot, per person.

For dessert patrons are allowed to debate the merits of the ever-satisfying Carrot Cake with Carrot Jelly & Raspberry Sauce versus the merits of the Traditional Crème Brulée, or have both by sharing and comparing.

The very tasty experience is offered at \$79 per couple, service charge included, and the offer is not available on special days or in combination with other special offers.

After dinner the Crystal Casino beacons with an array of table games and slot machines or for those seeking even more excitement the Havana Dance Revue at the Crystal theater starts at 9 p.m. and tickets are available at the box office. □







2-25-09 THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER. UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE.

# The “Can-Do” Economy-Killer

**Robert Tracinski**

I have been wondering whether Barack Obama will turn out to be another Jimmy Carter or another Franklin Roosevelt. The least bad option is Carter: a leader whose policies are disastrous for the economy and for US foreign policy, but who ends up being rejected by the American people and voted out of office after only one term—as opposed to a leader like FDR, whose policies are also disastrous, but who ends up being loved by the American people nonetheless and voted back into office. After viewing Obama’s speech last night, I am forced to conclude that he has the makings of another FDR. There aren’t many people alive today, of course, who can remember what FDR was like while he was in office. So it is difficult for us to project how an American leader could be permitted to preside over double digit unemployment and complete economic stagnation for more than one term, much less for an entire decade. But I’ve seen enough of the old news reels of Roosevelt to have a sense for how he did it. He always projected a buoyant confidence and a vigorous optimism that was just convincing enough to connect to the American sense of life—which he could then use as cover for policies that systematically destroyed wealth and prevented the economy from recovering.

For example, he would boast of “bold and persistent experimentation” in a way that would make the general public think of him as a vigorous, enterprising man with a “can-do” spirit. But what that would actually mean is an administration that lurched in panic from one statist scheme to another, creating so much fear and uncertainty in the markets that capital went on

strike and withdrew its productive power from the economy.

That is precisely the kind of pattern we saw in Obama’s address to Congress last night. There was a lot of soaring, all-we-have-to-fear-is-fear-itself kind of rhetoric about American greatness and resiliency and never quitting. But the actual content of the speech was one body blow after another to the private economy.

Here is an example of the rhetoric:

[T]hough we are living through difficult and uncertain times, tonight I want every American to know this: We will rebuild, we will recover, and the United States of America will emerge stronger than before.

The weight of this crisis will not determine the destiny of this nation. The answers to our problems don’t lie beyond our reach. They exist in our laboratories and our universities, in our fields and our factories, in the imaginations of our entrepreneurs and the pride of the hardest-working people on Earth.

Those qualities that have made America the greatest force of progress and prosperity in human history we still possess in ample measure. What is required now is for this country to pull together, confront boldly the challenges we face, and take responsibility for our future once more.

But underneath the airy-fairy inspiration of Obama’s words, here is the cold, factual reality of his policies.

â€¢ Taxes and regulations will increase. In the previous era, Obama tells us, “A surplus became an excuse to transfer wealth to the wealthy instead of an opportunity to invest in our future. Regulations were gutted for the sake of a quick profit at

the expense of a healthy market.” So taxes will go back up on the most productive people in the economy, and they will find new government restrictions placed on their activity.

â€¢ The government will take over lending directly. “We are creating a new lending fund that represents the largest effort ever to help provide auto loans, college loans, and small-business loans to the consumers and entrepreneurs who keep this economy running.” This implies lending provided directly under the control of government, financed with government money.

â€¢ The government will take over lending indirectly. “Our goal is to quicken the day when we restart lending to the American people and American business and end this crisis once and for all. And I intend to hold these banks fully accountable for the assistance they receive, and this time they will have to clearly demonstrate how taxpayer dollars result in more lending for the American taxpayer.” This means that federal regulators will be looking over the shoulders of the banks and dictating how much they should lend and to whom.

â€¢ The government will vilify and punish bankers. “This time, CEOs won’t be able to use taxpayer money to pad their paychecks, or buy fancy drapes, or disappear on a private jet. Those days are over.” Having foisted government money onto hundreds of banks across the country, the Treasury will now use that funding as an excuse to impose government controls on the banks—including populist caps on executive pay, which will only serve to drive talented and ambitious individuals to seek more profitable work elsewhere. □

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## From crisis, a more unified Europe?

By the Monitor’s Editorial Board

Recent weeks show how tough it may be for America to unite behind an economic fix-it plan. Some governors differ with the president, while in Congress, Republicans and Democrats bicker. In Europe, though, a financial crisis pits nation against nation, East against West. The crisis threatens a decades-long drive toward unity. Or does it?

It may yet happen that the economic challenge in Europe becomes so acute that, in the end, the crucible of crisis actually forces stronger financial and political bonds between countries.

But so far, European governments mostly talk financial brotherhood while acting in a harmful every-man-for-himself manner. As World Bank chief Robert Zoellick recently told the Financial Times of London, “There is a disconnect between some of the rhetoric of leaders calling for global this and global that and their own policies.”

French President Nicolas Sarkozy serves as Exhibit A.

This week, he and other West European leaders endorsed a global doubling of contributions to the International Monetary Fund. The IMF can surely use the infusion as it tries to catch tumbling economies in Eastern Europe.

On the other hand, Mr. Sarkozy will only magnify hardship in Central and Eastern Europe with his plan to reward French automakers if they retreat from countries like the Czech Republic and boost production at home.

As Mr. Zoellick rightly observed, it would be a “tragedy” if Europe split again, 20 years after the fall of the Berlin wall. Of particular concern is the move by some Western European countries to aid their banks at the expense of the East. The banks got an infusion of government capital, but only on the condition that they repatriated capital from Eastern Europe to domestic markets.

Now Eastern economies can’t get financing for exports. Their currencies are falling sharply, which makes it next to impossible to repay debt owed to West European banks. The rapid deterioration east of Berlin has caused a run on banks in Ukraine and protests in Riga that last week brought down the Latvian government.

A sharp divide is also appearing in the 16 European Union countries that use the euro. Greece, Spain, and Ireland, for instance, are in such bad shape that they’re blowing the fiscal standards that allow them to participate in the EU currency. The strain threatens to break up the euro-zone, formed just 10 years ago.

While exposing divisions, the financial and economic crisis in Europe also reveals how connected and interdependent all of these countries are. It points to the need for pan-European solutions, not a retreat to nationalism.

Encouragingly, such solutions are starting to be voiced. The idea of a euro-bond has been raised as an economic burden-sharing tool to support weaker countries. Austria, whose banks have the largest exposure to Eastern Europe, is pushing for a broad effort to help the East.

Most remarkable is Germany’s recent about-face to support a joint bailout should a eurozone country default on debt. That could be turned to an even greater advantage if structural reform were made a condition of rescue.

Now, crisis is tearing Europe apart by the seams. In the long run, it could stitch it closer together. □



# BUSINESS

*Aruba* TODAY

## Gov't says 'mass layoffs' soared in January



The front of a Home Depot store is seen in Harrisburg, Tuesday, Feb. 24, 2009. The Home Depot Inc., which has suffered under the weight of the collapsing housing market, reported a fiscal fourth-quarter loss of \$54 million Tuesday mostly due to its plan to shut its four smaller home-improvement brands.

(AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster)

By **CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER,**

**AP Economics Writer**

WASHINGTON – Employers took a large ax to their payrolls in January, the government said Wednesday, and the cuts are likely to get worse over the next few months.

The Labor Department reported that mass layoffs, or job cuts of 50 or more by a single employer, increased to 2,227 in January, up almost 50 percent from the same month last year. More than 235,000 workers were fired in last

month's cuts.

January was a bad month for the labor market. Companies from a wide range of sectors announced tens of thousands of layoffs, including Home Depot Inc., Boeing Co., Pfizer Inc. and Caterpillar Inc.

Not all of those cuts were reflected in the government's mass layoffs report, which counts actual firings as reported by laid-off workers seeking unemployment benefits. Many of the layoffs announced in January will take place over time, meaning

that the department's mass layoff figures will likely keep increasing. The pain continued Wednesday. The NFL said commissioner Roger Goodell has taken a 20 percent pay cut and the league dropped 169 jobs through buyouts, layoffs and other reductions. Spartanburg, S.C.-based textile maker Milliken & Co. said it would cut 650 jobs at facilities worldwide and jeweler Zale Corp. said it will close 115 stores and eliminate 245 positions.

On Monday, troubled flash memory maker Spansion Inc. said it will lay off about 3,000 employees and computer chip maker Micron Technology Inc. announced it will slash as many as 2,000 workers by the end of August.

In a bit of positive news for the job market, consulting firm Watson Wyatt said Wednesday that the number of large employers planning layoffs has dropped since December, according to a survey it conducted of 245 companies last week.

The survey found that the proportion of corporations expecting to cut jobs has dropped to 13 percent from 23

percent. But more companies are considering other cost savings, such as increasing health care premiums, eliminating employee benefits like tuition reimbursement, and reducing matching payments for 401(k)-style retirement plans.

The number of layoffs last month actually declined slightly from December on a seasonally adjusted basis, the Labor Department said.

But the figures were uglier without the seasonal adjustment: mass layoffs jumped to 3,806, from 3,377 in December and 1,647 in January 2008.

The government seasonally adjusts many economic indicators to smooth out fluctuations resulting from weather changes, holidays and

other predictable factors.

Eleven industries — including mining, manufacturing, transportation and financial services — in January reported the highest levels of job losses on government records dating back to 1996.

The department said earlier this month that employers cut nearly 600,000 jobs in January, the biggest loss since 1974. That sent the unemployment rate to 7.6 percent, the highest in 16 years. Since the recession began in December 2007, companies have cut a net total of nearly 3.6 million jobs.

Mass layoffs rose sharply last year to more than 21,000, from about 15,000 in 2007, the department said in January. More than 2.1 million workers lost their jobs last year due to those reductions. □

## Wall Street falls on economic woes



A U.S. flag hangs over the exterior of the New York Stock Exchange February 25, 2009.

REUTERS/Brendan McDermid (UNITED STATES)

NEW YORK (Reuters) – U.S. stocks fell on Wednesday as more weak housing data reinforced fears about the economy, while banks weakened in late trading after the government launched tests to gauge their ability to withstand a long and deep recession.

\* Sales of previously owned U.S. homes plunged much more than expected January, pulling homebuilders down 2.1 percent.

\* After a choppy session that saw indexes swing both up and down, the Dow Jones industrial average (.DJI) fell 80.05 points, or 1.09 percent, to 7,270.89. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index (.SPX) lost 8.25 points, or 1.07 percent, to 764.89. The Nasdaq Composite Index (.IXIC) was down 16.40 points, or 1.14 percent, at 1,425.43. □

## Big banks face 'stress tests' from regulators

By **CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER,**

**AP Economics Writers**

WASHINGTON – The Obama administration hopes to restore confidence in the nation's ailing financial sector by subjecting 19 of the largest banks to "stress tests" that will gauge whether each institution has adequate capital to survive a severe downturn.

Banks that need new funds will be given six months to obtain it from the private sector or, failing that, from the federal government's \$700 billion bank rescue program, the Treasury Department said Wednesday. Treasury officials said the new support will be provided through the government's purchase of preferred shares of the bank stock that are convertible into common shares at a 10 percent discount to their price before Feb. 9. The preferred shares will carry a 9 percent dividend and be convertible at the bank's option, but subject to regulatory approval. The option to convert

the preferred shares into common shares is a change in the rescue program designed to give the government greater flexibility in managing its assistance. Common shares absorb losses before preferred shares do, which means that under a stock-conversion plan taxpayers would be on the hook if banks keep writing down billions of dollars' worth of rotten assets, such as dodgy mortgages, as many analysts expect they will. However, common stock in banks is incredibly cheap, and taxpayers would reap gains if the banks come back to health and the stock price rises. The Treasury Department also provided details of how a new stress test will function to ensure banks have enough capital to survive a downturn that would be even more severe than the current recession. The tests will be conducted by bank regulators, including the Federal Reserve, Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., Office of the Comptroller of the Currency and Office of Thrift Supervision. □



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## U.S. salmonella outbreak count hits 666 people sickened



In this June 4, 2008 file photo, jars of Smucker's jams and preserves appear on a supermarket shelf in Norwood, Mass. J.M. Smucker Co. said Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2009, fiscal third-quarter earnings rose 84 percent as its purchase of Folgers helped drive a sharp increase in sales, but the nation's top maker of jams and jellies lowered its 2009 outlook because of a nationwide salmonella outbreak that made consumers wary of peanut butter products.

(AP Photo/Steven Senne, file)

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — An outbreak of salmonella food poisoning traced to peanut products has sickened 666 people and is continuing despite one of the biggest food recalls in U.S. history, health officials said on Tuesday. But the outbreak of salmonella is still only linked to nine deaths, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said in a statement.

"To date, 19 clusters of infections in five states have been reported in schools and other institutions, such as long-term care facilities and

America, which has gone into bankruptcy and closed two plants in Georgia and Texas after inspectors traced the salmonella outbreaks to them. Its peanuts were not used in name brands of peanut butter but were ingredients in a wide range of products from peanut butter crackers to dog treats and bird seed.

"To date, more than 2,100 products in 17 categories have been voluntarily recalled by more than 200 companies, and the list continues to grow," the U.S. Food and Drug Administration said in a statement.

FBI officials in Atlanta and Virginia said earlier this week they had joined the FDA in a criminal investigation of the company.

Members of Congress have pledged to reform the FDA's food inspection program. □





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The Brazilian-style steakhouse also offers up a garden full of healthy eats on a lavish 40-item seasonal salad bar, giving dieters plenty to choose from to accompany the

slow-roasted meats. A selection of fresh lettuces and vegetables may be standard for most salad bars, but **Texas de Brazil's** version goes a gourmet twist further, treating the palate to additional items like marinated portabella mushrooms, sweet roasted bell peppers, hearts of palm, sundried tomatoes, imported cheeses—including fresh buffalo mozzarella—sushi, home-made soups, and much more.

The salad bar is included in the continuous service meal with unlimited choices from the grilled meats, but for vegetarians or the non-meat eaters, a special price is offered for just the salad bar. Of course, for those looking to splurge while on vacation, **Texas de Brazil** will gladly serve their garlic mashed potatoes, traditional fried plantains, and their world-famous parmesan cheese bread as part of the meal.

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# Scores survive plane crash in Amsterdam; 9 dead

By TOBY STERLING

Associated Press Writers

AMSTERDAM (AP) — A Turkish Airlines jetliner plummeted out of cloudy skies and plowed into a muddy field on approach to Amsterdam on Wednesday, but remarkably some 125 people — the vast majority of those aboard — survived. The nine dead included both pilots.

The Boeing 737-800 en route from Istanbul to Amsterdam broke into three pieces when it hit the ground about two miles short of the runway at Schiphol Airport at 1031 a.m. The fuselage split in two, close to the cockpit, and the tail broke off.

But the wreckage didn't burn and scores of people walked away from it. Survivor Huseyin Sumer told Turkish NTV television he crawled to safety out of a crack in the fuselage.

"We were about to land, we could not understand what was happening, some passengers screamed in panic but it happened so fast," Sumer said. He said the crash was over in five to 10 seconds.

Pieter van Vollenhoven, head of the Dutch Safety Authority investigating the cause, said it appeared the plane lost speed before crashing.

"You see that because of a lack of speed it literally fell out of the sky," he told NOS radio after visiting the crash site.

The plane's flight data recorders have been found and will be analyzed by experts.

Turkish Transport Minister Binali Yildirim said it was "a miracle" there were not more casualties.

*Continued on Page B7*

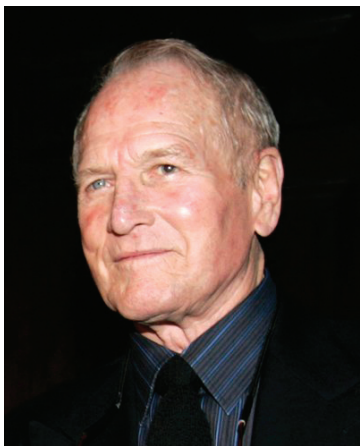
## U.S. House honors late actor Paul Newman

WASHINGTON (AP) — Paul Newman, the late actor and 10-time Academy Award nominee, has been honored by U.S. lawmakers as a screen legend and humanitarian.

Newman died Sept. 26, 2008, at age 83 after a long battle with cancer. The House on Tuesday night approved a resolution recognizing Newman's achievements on and off screen.

The resolution said Newman's "humanitarian works and incomparable talents have made him an American icon who will never be forgotten."

The Hollywood star won one Oscar and took home two honorary ones, and had major roles in more than 50 motion pictures, including "Cool Hand Luke," "Exodus," "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid," "The Verdict," "The Sting" and "Absence of Malice."



In this May 3, 2007 file photo, actor Paul Newman attends a gala in New York. Newman has been honored by lawmakers for his film work and humanitarian contributions.

*Associated Press*

Newman and his popular food company, Newman's Own, have given more than \$250 million to charity over the years. He also helped to start "Hole in the Wall" camps across the world for children with life-threatening illnesses. □



Rescue workers are seen near the wreckage of a Turkish Airlines aeroplane at Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2009. The aeroplane, with 135 people aboard, slammed into a muddy field while attempting to land at Amsterdam's main airport. Nine people were killed and more than 50 were injured, many seriously, officials said. The Boeing 737- 800 broke into three pieces on impact about two miles short of a runway.

*Associated Press*

## House OKs \$410B spending, reverses George Bush policies



White House Press Secretary Robert Gibbs takes a question during the daily press briefing at the White House in Washington, Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2009.

*Associated Press*

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Democratic-controlled U.S. House of Representatives approved \$410 billion legislation Wednesday that boosted domestic programs, bristled with earmarks and chipped away at policies left behind by

the Bush administration.

The vote was 245-178, largely along party lines.

Republicans assailed the measure as too costly — particularly on the heels of a \$787 billion stimulus bill that President Barack Obama signed

last week. But Democrats jabbed back.

"The same people who drove the economy into the ditch are now complaining about the size of the tow truck," said Rep. James McGovern, a Democrat, pointing out the large increase in deficits that President George W. Bush and Republican-controlled Congresses amassed.

From the Republican side, Rep. Jeb Hensarling said the legislation was "going to grow the government 8.3 percent ... but the family budget which has to pay for the federal budget only grew at 1.3 percent last year."

The debate occurred one day after Obama told Congress in a prime time television address that he intends to cut deficits in half over the next four years, and one day before he submits tax and spending plans for the coming year.

*Continued on Next Page*





In this Friday, Oct. 3, 2008., file photo, President Bush signs the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 in the Oval Office at the White House in Washington after the House passed the \$700 billion financial bailout bill. The Bush administration overpaid tens of billions of dollars for stocks and other assets in its massive bailout last year of Wall Street banks and financial institutions, a new study by a government watchdog said, Friday, Feb. 6, 2009.

### BUSH POLICIES

*Continued from Page B1*

Given the extraordinary costs of the financial industry bailout and the stimulus, the White House projects this year's budget shortfall will be \$1.5 trillion, triple the previous record of \$455 billion in 2008.

In a symbolic bow to the recession, Democrats included in the spending measure a prohibition on a cost-of-living increase for members of Congress

for the year.

Overall, the legislation would provided increases of roughly 8 percent for the federal agencies it covered, about \$32 billion more than last year.

The bill is intended to allow smooth functioning of the government through the Sept. 30 end of the fiscal year. The Senate has yet to vote on its version.

After persuading lawmakers to keep pet projects in their districts known as earmarks off the stimulus bill, Obama

made no such attempt on the first non-emergency spending measure of his presidency. The result was that lawmakers claimed billions in federal funds for pet projects — a total of 8,570 earmarks at a cost of \$7.7 billion, according to Taxpayers for Common Sense. Majority Democrats declined to provide a number of earmarks, but said the cost was far smaller, \$3.8 billion, 5 percent less than a year ago.

Among the earmarks was one sponsored by Rep. Howard Berman, a Democrat, who secured \$200,000 for a "tattoo removal violence outreach program" in Los Angeles.

Aides said the money would pay for a tattoo removal machine that could help gang members or others shed visible signs of their past, and anyone benefiting would be required to perform community service.

In remarks on the House floor, Republican leader John Boehner urged Obama to veto the legislation, citing earmarks.

At the White House, press secretary Robert Gibbs responded only in general terms whether that was possible.

"There is great concern in this building and by the president about earmarks," Gibbs said. "Without having looked specifically at a piece of legislation, I'm hesitant to throw out that four-letter word, 'Veto.'"

After eight years without control of the

White House, congressional Democrats also used the legislation to target several policies of former President Bush.

Under the bill, Mexican-licensed trucks are banned from operating outside commercial zones along the border with the United States. The Teamsters union, which supported Obama's election last year, had sought the move. The Bush administration backed a pilot program to permit up to 500 trucks from 100 Mexican motor carriers access to U.S. roads.

Bush administration restrictions on travel to Cuba were loosened in the legislation, to permit more frequent visits and expand the list of family members permitted to make trips to see relatives on the Communist nation-island.

Rep. Doc Hastings, a Republican, took aim at a provision that he said would vastly broaden the government's ability to invoke the threat of climate change to halt economic development. "Most all of the shovel-ready projects on the trillion-dollar stimulus bill would in fact be at risk," he said.

Nominally, the provision halts implementation of a Bush-era regulation that lists the polar bear as a threatened species, and Rep. David Obey, a Democrat and chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, said it would merely give the new administration 60 days to decide its fate. □



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# 4 charged in multi-state suicide assistance probe

By GREG BLUESTEIN,  
Associated Press Writer

ATLANTA — Four members of an alleged assisted suicide ring were charged Wednesday with helping a 58-year-old Georgia man end his life, and investigators in eight other states were also looking into whether the group was involved in more deaths.

The FBI is also probing the Final Exit Network, an organization whose Web site said it is “dedicated to serving people who are suffering from an intolerable condition.” It wasn’t immediately clear how many deaths were being investigated.

On Wednesday, investigators raided the homes of group volunteers in seven of the states, a group office in Georgia and a company in Montana that authorities said supplied items used in suicides, according to a news release from authorities in Arizona, where another death was being investigated.

Group members Thomas E. Goodwin, who was identified as the organization’s president, and Claire Blehr, a member, were both arrested Wednesday at a home in northern Georgia, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation said. The arrests came after a sting operation in which an undercover agent posed as a member of the group.

Maryland authorities arrested the organization’s medical director, Dr. Lawrence D. Egbert, 81, of Baltimore. A fourth suspect, Nicholas Alec Sheridan, a Baltimore man who is a regional coordinator for the group, has been charged but remains at large.

The four were charged with assisted suicide, tampering with evidence and a violation of Georgia’s anti-racketeering act.

Their charges stem from the June 2008 death of John Celmer after he inhaled helium in an assisted suicide in Cumming, about 35 miles north of Atlanta, said GBI spokesman John Bankhead.

Betty Celmer, the man’s mother, said her son had suffered for years from cancer of the throat and mouth and that he had

undergone extensive surgery with several more rounds to go.

“I know he was depressed, he called me every single Sunday,” said Celmer, who is 85.

She said she was suspicious of his death, but his siblings have denied it could have been suicide.

“I thought sincerely that John may have taken his own life — but I never thought he had the courage to,” she said.

Authorities were executing search warrants at 14 sites in Arizona, Georgia, Florida, Maryland, Michigan, Ohio, Missouri, Colorado, and Montana as part of the investigation, according to the GBI and the Maricopa County Attorney’s Office in Arizona. Maricopa County Attorney Andrew Thomas said detectives there are investigating whether a Phoenix woman’s death involved assistance from the group.

Bankhead said new members of the group pay a \$50 fee and are vetted through an application process. Those seeking to end their lives are assigned to an “exit guide” who instructs them to purchase two new helium tanks and a hood, known as an “exit bag.”

When ready to commit suicide, Bankhead said, the member is visited by the “exit guide” and a “senior exit guide” to lead them through the process.

The group’s vice president

said it supports those with irreversible illnesses who choose to end their lives, but its volunteers don’t actively participate in the life-ending procedures. The group started in 2004 and has 3,000 dues-paying members.

“When they choose to exit, as we call it, we just hold their hand. That’s about it,” said Jerry Dincin, who’s also a clinical psychologist in Chicago.

He said members are given a book, “The Final Exit,” that outlines how they can end their lives. He said volunteers never encourage the members to commit suicide, but support them if that’s their choice.

“Assisted suicide means that you help people to do it. We don’t do that,” he said. If convicted on assisted suicide charges, the four could face prison charges of up to five years under Georgia law.

The state code defines assisted suicide as anyone who “publicly advertises, offers or holds himself or herself out as offering that he or she will intentionally and actively” assist a suicide.

The Georgia man’s mother, Betty Celmer, contended that the group shouldn’t face charges if they helped her son.

“If they helped John to die, that is what he wanted. I would never find them guilty for helping him,” she said. “If someone helped him, I think that was in God’s hands.” □

## Body rots in hearse, Ala. funeral director charged



This photograph released by the Etowah County Sheriff’s Department in Gadsden, Ala., shows funeral director ...

Associated Press

By JAY REEVES,  
Associated Press Writer

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — A funeral director accused of leaving a woman’s body to decay in a parked hearse after her relatives failed to pay the bill was arrested on a felony charge of abusing a corpse, police said Wednesday. Watson and Sons Funeral Home embalmed the remains of Edna Kathleen Woods, 52, after she died of natural causes in November 2007, said Gadsden police Sgt. Jeff Wright. Relatives wanted the body cremated but failed to sign the necessary paperwork or pay owner Harold Watson Sr., he said. After storing the corpse at his funeral home for more than a year, Wright said, the 76-year-old Watson decided to move it because he couldn’t reach the woman’s family.

Someone complained about a foul smell near downtown Gadsden, about 60 miles northeast of Birmingham, and

officers on Tuesday found the woman’s remains in a cardboard box that was inside a locked hearse parked on a piece of property that Watson owns.

Watson was arrested after officers tracked the hearse to him. The body apparently was in the hearse for about two months, and the battery had been removed so no one could move the vehicle, Wright said.

Funeral directors with unclaimed bodies can file a petition to have counties dispose of remains.

“He knows better. The family wouldn’t pay him, so he just got rid of it,” Wright said.

Watson was free on bond and did not immediately return a message left at his funeral home. It was not immediately known if he had an attorney.

The head of the state office that regulates Alabama’s funeral industry said Watson could lose his director’s license if convicted.

“We don’t have many cases this bizarre,” said Warren Higgins, executive secretary of the Alabama Board of Funeral Service. “We’re just waiting to hear more from the authorities in Gadsden.”

Police didn’t know how much the woman’s relatives owed, and it wasn’t clear who notified officers about the hearse.

Higgins said the funeral agency had not received any complaints about Watson’s work since the early 1980s, when questions arose about whether he could use the name “Watson and Sons” for the business because his sons were not licensed morticians. □

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# Honor? Duty? Put it in writing, U.S. generals told



U.S. Secretary for Defense Robert Gates, seen on podium and video camera screen, gestures while speaking during a media conference after a meeting of NATO defense ministers in Krakow, Southern Poland, Friday Feb. 20, 2009. Defense ministers are looking Friday at reforms to the alliance to help it meet modern threats, as well as the ambitions of Georgia and Ukraine, whose membership aspirations have deeply added to tensions with Russia.

*Associated Press*

By PAULINE JELINEK

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) —

They long ago pledged honor and duty to country, but this year their spoken word was not enough.

Top U.S. Defense Department generals and admirals had to sign a letter promising to keep defense budget details secret if they wanted to work on the

military's fiscal plan.

Defense Secretary Robert Gates set the rule, requiring for the first time that each military and civilian official helping prepare the budget sign a non-disclosure statement, Pentagon press secretary Geoff Morrell said Wednesday.

The entire Joint Chiefs of Staff signed, promising not to leak

information while the budget was being put together. Gates also signed, as did all the high-ranking civilian defense officials working on the budget document, Morrell told a Pentagon press conference.

"He wants to create an environment in which the best possible budget can be built," Morrell said of Gates. "And he believes the only way to do that is to make sure that we are doing this in utter and complete secrecy until that budget is rolled out."

President Barack Obama plans to submit his budget to Congress on Thursday.

Keeping the secret until the budget proposal is ready and whole allows people to offer their honest opinions without fear of them becoming public, Morrell said of Gates' reasoning.

"He thinks that by having people pledge not to speak out of school, if you will, on these matters while they are a work in progress, that you'll create a climate in which you can ultimately produce a better product, because people can speak candidly with the

confidence that it will not be leaked," Morrell said.

Officials across the federal government also have been known to leak information on a wide range of subjects ahead of time in hopes of sabotaging proposed actions they do not like.

The letter defense officials signed was a one-page agreement not to talk about "planning, programming, and budgeting system documents and databases, and any other information, pre-decisional or otherwise, concerning the administration's deliberations" on the budget. The three-paragraph letter ends: "I pledge that I will not divulge the budget-related information covered under this agreement to any individual not authorized to receive it and under no circumstances will I disclose such information outside the Department of Defense and other agencies directly involved in the defense planning and resource allocation process."

Asked how the new requirement to sign the letter squares with Obama's

call for greater openness in government, Morrell said: "I do not believe that the president's call for a greater transparency means that we should get rid of classification of materials that are highly sensitive."

A defense official later clarified to reporters that Morrell had misspoken and that the budget is not classified. □



New CIA Director Leon Panetta speaks with reporters, at CIA Headquarters in Langley, Va., Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2009. Panetta said Argentina, Ecuador and Venezuela are in dire economic straits and could be destabilized by the worldwide economic crisis.

*Associated Press*

## CIA: Bad economy could destabilize some countries

WASHINGTON (AP) — CIA Director Leon Panetta says Argentina, Ecuador and Venezuela are in dire economic straits and could be destabilized by the worldwide economic crisis.

Panetta told reporters Wednesday that the spy agency has to pay attention to the impact of the recession around the world.

In his first on-the-record meeting with the news media, Panetta said the CIA has to know how the economy is affecting the international policies of China, Russia and other countries.

The new CIA chief says that the spy agency has issued its first daily Economic Intelligence Briefing on overseas economic and political matters for the Obama administration. □



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# Police: Miami music teacher kills family, self

By MATT SEDENSKY,  
Associated Press Writer

MIAMI — A gifted musician and teacher whose piano students included his neighbors' kids fatally shot his wife and two daughters then himself in the family's Miami home, police say, leaving those who described him as friendly and helpful to wonder what happened. Police haven't released the names of those killed Wednesday morning, but neighbors identified them as 53-year-old Pablo Josue Amador, his 45-year-old wife, Maria and their youngest daughters, Priscila and Rosa, 12 and 11. A teenage son escaped the shootings uninjured, calling 911 at 5:58 a.m. as he fled the home, police said.

A biography of Amador posted on a Web site advertising his piano classes says he began studying music in Havana and later earned a degree in the U.S. The U.S. Copyright Office lists 36 compositions by him and a set of photographs. The songs he wrote, many in Spanish, included titles such as "Beautiful Boy" and "Rose of Love," as well as numerous religious selections.

Sarait Betancourt, a 44-

year-old school bus driver who lives near the family, said Amador was a Cuban immigrant who has been giving her two sons, ages 9 and 10, piano lessons at his home once a week since 2006.

"He was a marvelous person and a tremendous professor," she said. "People would enter the house, and you just breathed peace." Amador's two slain daughters, his 16-year-old son, Javier, and a college-age daughter all excelled at piano and performed together at church and home as Los Galileos, Betancourt said. Amador said on his Web site that he produced 13 CDs of his children performing. Authorities have not confirmed that there is a fourth sibling, nor released any personal information about the family.

They have not said where the son is now.

Gregorio Montesino, who lives nearby, said music could always be heard coming from the house and children often played in its in-ground pool. He said Amador always waved to greet him.

Amador also said on his Web site that he sang tenor with

the Greater Miami Opera chorus and was a soloist at Kendall United Methodist Church, though officials at both places weren't able to confirm that information.

Christina Ruiz, a 23-year-old social work student who lives next to the family, described him as a "regular dad" who helped her grandmother jump-start her car several times but who was known to complain when he was bothered by noise or work being done on her house.

Neighbors said Amador also worked at a music store. His wife had nursing degrees and officials at The Miami Project to Cure Paralysis confirmed she was the director of education there, teaching about spinal cord injuries and answering calls from patients looking for the right doctor.

By afternoon, all the victims had been carried out of the white ranch with gray trim. The only sign anything had happened on the quiet street of modest single-family homes was the line of TV satellite trucks and towels draped over the two minivans parked in the family's driveway, apparently placed by police to block the license



Medical examiners place one of four bodies inside a Medical Examiners van in Miami, after an early morning shooting Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2009. A 53-year-old man fatally shot his wife and two daughters Wednesday before turning the gun on himself, and a 16-year-old son who survived the attack managed to call police on a cordless phone as he fled, police said.

(AP Photo/Alan Diaz)

plates. But the questions Vallecillo, whose 13-year-old daughter took piano lessons at the house. "It confuses me," said Thelma don't understand."□

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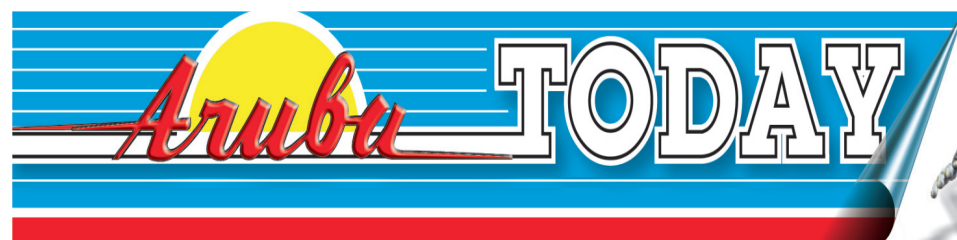
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# Iranians in test run of first nuclear power plant



The reactor building, centre, dominates the nuclear power plant in Bushehr, Iran, Wednesday Feb. 25, 2009.

Associated Press

By NASSER KARIMI

Associated Press Writer

BUSHEHR, Iran (AP) — Iranian and Russian engineers carried out a test-run of Iran's first nuclear power plant Wednesday, a major step toward starting up a facility that the U.S. once hoped to

prevent because of fears over Tehran's nuclear ambitions. Washington worried Iran would turn spent fuel from the plant's reactor into plutonium, which could then be used to build a nuclear warhead, and U.S. officials pressured Moscow for years

to stop helping Iran build the electricity-generating facility. American opposition to the plant eased when Iran agreed in 2005 to return spent fuel to Russia to ensure it can't be reprocessed into plutonium. Russia is providing enriched uranium fuel for the plant in the southern port city of Bushehr.

But the U.S. and its allies say there are deep questions about whether Iran intends to use other parts of its nuclear program to develop atomic weapons. Tehran denies that. The United States said Wednesday that the fuel deal with Russia shows Tehran does not need the most controversial part of its nuclear program — facilities to produce its own enriched uranium.

The arrangement with Russia is "an appropriate mechanism for Iran to see the benefits of the peaceful use of nuclear energy," State Department

spokesman Robert A. Wood said in Washington. "It also demonstrates that Iran does not need to develop any kind of indigenous uranium enrichment capacity."

The U.N. Security Council, the U.S. and other countries have demanded that Iran suspend enrichment because the process not only can produce fuel for a reactor, but can be used to develop highly enriched uranium needed to make nuclear bombs.

Iran denies it is seeking to build atomic weapons, and says it has a right to produce its own fuel for several nuclear power plants it plans to build. It says relying on imported fuel for its entire reactor program would leave it vulnerable to cutoffs as political pressure.

Iranian officials on Wednesday claimed further progress in expanding the uranium enrichment program, saying the number of centrifuges

operating at its enrichment plant has increased to 6,000, up from 5,000 in November.

In Israel, which has been one of the most vocal nations accusing Iran of seeking to develop atomic weapons, Foreign Ministry spokesman Yigal Palmor said the tests at Bushehr "should be understood as very bad news for the whole of the international community" because it shows Iran's nuclear program is progressing.

Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak warned that "time is slipping through our fingers" in preventing Iran from developing a weapon. He called for "harsh sanctions" and a "willingness to consider other options" if sanctions don't succeed — a reference to military action.

"We do not take any option off the table regarding to Iran's nuclear program," he said. □



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FEBRUARY 26 - MARCH 4					
*matinee: saturday and sunday   late show: friday and saturday					
AT RENAISSANCE - ORANJESTAD					
PG-13	THE UNBORN	daily: 4:10 6:10 8:10 10:10			NEW
	matinee: 12:20 2:20	late show: 12:10			
R	THE INTERNATIONAL	daily: 4:55 7:20 9:50			NEW
	matinee: 12:05 2:30	late show: 12:20			
PG-13	HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU	daily: 6:45 9:20			
	matinee: 1:10	late show: 11:55			
PG	THE PINK PANTHER 2	daily: 4:05 6:20 8:20 10:20			
	matinee: 12:00 2:05	late show: 12:25			
R	UNDERWORLD: RISE OF THE LYCANS	daily: 3:50 5:50 7:55 10:00			
	matinee: 11:55 1:50	late show: 12:00			
PG	HOTEL FOR DOGS	daily: 4:40			
	matinee: 12:20 2:25	late show:			
PG	PAUL BLART: MALL COP	daily: 4:15 6:20 8:20 10:15			
	matinee: 12:10 2:15	late show: 12:15			
AT PASEO HERENCIA					
PG-13	THE UNBORN	daily: 4:05 6:00 8:05 10:05			NEW
	matinee: 12:00 2:00	late show: 12:05			
R	THE INTERNATIONAL	daily: 4:50 7:20 9:50			NEW
	matinee: 11:55 2:25	late show: 12:15			
PG-13	TAKEN	daily: 4:10 6:20 8:20 10:20			
	matinee: 12:05 2:10	late show: 12:20			
R	FRIDAY THE 13TH	daily: 7:55 10:00			
	matinee:	late show: 12:10			
PG	HOTEL FOR DOGS	daily: 5:40			
	matinee: 1:25 3:35	late show:			
PG-13	THE PINK PANTHER 2	daily: 3:40 5:50 7:50 9:55			
	matinee: 1:40	late show: 12:00			
PG	PAUL BLART: MALL COP	daily: 4:15 6:10 8:10 10:15			
	matinee: 12:10 2:15	late show: 12:25			
DRIVE-IN February 26 - March 1					
PG	INKHEART	Thursday: 8:00	Friday: 8:00 & 10:30		
PG-13	YES MAN	Saturday: 8:00 & 10:30	Sunday: 8:00		





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## PLANE CRASH

*Continued from Page B1*

"The fact that the plane landed on a soft surface and that there was no fire helped keep the number of fatalities low," he said.

Experts said that might also have helped avert a fire resulting from ruptured fuel tanks and lines on the underside of the fuselage, which appeared to have suffered very heavy impact damage.

Having almost reached its destination, the plane would have used up a major portion of its fuel.

Experts say crashes involving modern airliners are more survivable due to engineering advances that have resulted in strengthened structures and fire retardant technologies used for cabin seats and furnishings, as well as better emergency training of both cockpit and cabin crews.

The most dramatic example of passenger survival was in the Hudson River landing last month of a US Airways Airbus A320 that lost engine power when it struck a flock of birds. All 155 people on board lived.

At first, the Turkish Airline said everyone survived Wednesday's crash. But Michel Bezuijen, acting mayor of Haarlemmermeer, later reported the fatalities. He initially said 135 people were

on board, but changed that figure to 134.

A spokesman for investigators said two pilots and an apprentice pilot were among the dead.

Six of the injured were in critical condition, 25 were seriously hurt and 24 had slight injuries, health authorities said. Survivors were taken to 11 hospitals including an emergency field hospital set up by the military in the central city of Utrecht.

The Turkish ambassador to the Netherlands, Selahattin Alpar, told Turkish news agency Anatolia there were 72 Turks and 32 Dutch people on board. There was no information on the nationality of other passengers.

Investigators will explore a wide range of possible causes of the crash, ranging from weather-related factors such as wind shear or icing, to fuel starvation, navigational errors, pilot fatigue or bird strikes. Experts say initial results could be made public soon because of the sophistication of the Boeing 737-800s black boxes, although the full report will likely not be ready before the end of the year.

Weather at the airport near the time of the crash was cloudy with slight drizzle.

But Candan Karlitekin, the head of the airline's board of directors, told reporters that visibility was good at the time

of landing.

"Visibility was clear and around 5,000 yards. Some 550 yards before landing; the plane landed on a field instead of the runway," he said.

"We have checked the plane's documents and there is no problem concerning maintenance," he added.

Turkish Airlines chief Temel Kotil said the captain, Hasan Tahsin, was very experienced and a former air force pilot. Turkish officials said the plane was built in 2002 and last underwent thorough maintenance on Dec. 22.

Turkish Airlines has had several serious crashes since 1974, when 360 people died in the crash of a DC-10 near Paris after a cargo door came off. More recently, in 2003, 75 died when an RJ-100 missed the runway in heavy fog in the southeastern Turkish city of Diyarbakir.

Jim Proulx, a Boeing spokesman, said the company was sending a team to provide technical assistance to Dutch safety officials as they investigate.

He declined to comment on media reports that at least four Boeing employees were on the plane.

Boeing's 737 is the world's best-selling commercial jet, with more than 6,000 orders since the model was launched in 1965.

The 737-800, a recent version



A rescue worker is seen near a Turkish Airlines plane which slammed into a field while attempting to land with 134 people on board at Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport, Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2009. The airline said everyone on board survived. Officials said nine people were killed and more than 50 were injured, many seriously.

*Associated Press*

of the plane, has a "very good safety record," said Bill Voss, president of the independent Flight Safety Foundation in Alexandria, Virginia.

"It has been involved in a couple of accidents, but nothing that relates directly back to the aircraft," he said, adding that the plane had the best flight data recorders, which should

give investigators a rich source of information about the crash.

Wim Kok, a spokesman for the Dutch Anti-Terror Coordinator's office, said terrorism did not appear to be a factor.

"There are no indications whatsoever (of a terror attack)," Kok said. □



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dinning room or outside on the terrace to enjoy the tropical breeze and daily live music. Most guests come in early for the **daily fresh catches**, such as Red snapper, grouper, mahi mahi, wahoo and tuna. Check with the server to find out about the Catch of the day. The chef will be more than happy to prepare your fish the way you like it best: grilled, deep-fried, pan-fried or the chef's choice. **Every Wednesday, seafood specials are prepared** depending on what the Fishermen bring in fresh out of the water that afternoon. These



specials usually include fresh Caribbean lobster and pounds of peeled shrimps. **Fishes and More** is for everyone, from large groups, families, couples and even singles who can't shake the seafood addiction can stop in for a fix of Pina Colada Shrimp. For those who like to try something different or have had their fill of spectacular seafood, the chef prepares a wonderful array of filet mignon, rib eye, wiener schnitzel, veal parmesan, and pasta specialties. **Great Seafood!!!** Fun and relaxed atmosphere. Right across from the high rise hotels. It is worth the short walk to a wonderful dinner ☐





**The Earlybird menu**  
Served between 4 pm & 6.30 pm

Soup of the day Mixed Salad or Caesar Salad *****	Catch of the day Filet Mignon Fettuccini Alfredo Chicken Breast *****	Hot chocolate fudge Sunday *****
All main courses are served with potatoes au Gratin & fresh vegetables		
The early bird menu is priced at \$ 21,75 Service charge not included.		
<b>Open Daily from 4pm - 11pm</b>		
<b>For info. and reservations call 586-3659</b>		
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## Le Petit Cafe Stone Grill & Seafood Restaurant

**\*American Breakfast for \$ 5.<sup>95</sup>**  
From Monday thru Saturday 8 - 11 AM

**\*2 Eggs (fried, scrambled or poached) with 2 slices of bacon, a link sausage, potatoes, toast and coffee or tea.**

**All you care to eat breakfast for \$ 9.95**

Available at **Le Petit Cafe** Play Linda



**Early Bird Special**  
**Le Petit Cafe** **\$21.<sup>50</sup> Only**

Cesar Salad or Soup of the day	Lemon Chicken Breast or Petit Filet Mignon or Filet of Grouper	Ice Cream Chocolate or Vanilla
--------------------------------------	--	--------------------------------------

All served with French Fries on our famous HOT Stone  
Every Day from 5 - 7 PM

\* Plus 15% service charge. Not valid with other promotional offers or coupons.

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## Ease out your week with Le Dôme's Sunday à la Carte Brunch It's more than a tradition... it is a culinary art by Le Dôme's Chef Michael van Dorst



**LONDON/PARIS** - The tradition of Brunch dates back to the 19th century. This blend of breakfast and lunch was founded on the principles of leisure of the privileged in Britain. Though, it didn't take long before the French adopted this rich tradition and turned it a true culinary art. In 1895 Guy Beringer wrote in a visionary article: "Brunch is cheerful, sociable and inciting. It is talk-compelling. It puts you in a good temper, it

makes you satisfied with yourself and your fellow beings, and it sweeps away the worries of the week." Today the basic principles Beringer described so well, still stand. More then ever Sunday Brunch is a weekly highlight and gives many around the world the perfect moment for recapping and reflection.

**Every Sunday**  
Le Dôme Restaurant is proudly continuing this wonderful tradition! Its

Sunday à la Carte Champagne Brunch contains a carefully selected variety of dishes from which one may choose in any order and as much as desired and always with a chilled glass of champagne on the side.

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Brunch hours: 11am- 3pm  
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### Le Dôme Special 3-Course Menu US\$ 36.50 p.p.

- Salad of Cabbage with Mixed Nuts and a Honey Dressing  
Or  
Salmon Grave Lax served with a Mustard Dressing and Baby Greens  
Or  
Homemade Pâté of Sweetbreads, served in a roll of Prosecco Ham and a 12 year Aged Aceïfo Balsamico  
♦♦♦
- Crispy Pan Fried Red Snapper Fillet, served with an Egg plant Mousse  
Or  
Pan Fried Duck Breast served with Pommes Dauphine and Cauliflower  
♦♦♦
- Banana Parfait served with a Coconut Sauce and a Powder of Five Spices



**Raffle Coupon**

Fill out your name and hotel and win back your dinner at Le Dôme. One coupon per person. Twice a week a winner!

## One of your best bets is Taste of Belgium's Bistro



**PALM BEACH** - Taste of Belgium's Bistro is located in the intimate courtyard of the Paseo Herencia Mall across from the Holiday Inn Resort. It is cozy and casual: one can have a drink with friends, have a quick bite before grabbing a movie or relax and lounge away the afternoon and evening in the balmy breeze underneath the stars. The Bistro's great selection of

Belgian beers has drawn many beer lovers to the mall already, but it is its exquisite food, ample portions and great prices that keep folks coming back for more every night of the week. The Bistro's menu offers everyone's favorites, but with a culinary Belgian twist. This might be an

unusual presentation, an awesome side dish, a stunning combination, a surprising regional dish or a dessert that takes you to heaven and back a few times. Good service and lots of smiles will surely make the Bistro one of your favorite places to go to. Open for coffee, lunch, drinks, dinner and cocktails ☐



## TASTE OF BELGIUM

*The Bistro forms part of the Taste of Belgium family, which consists of the elegant chocolaterie in the Renaissance Mall downtown, the recently opened Papillon Restaurant in The Village across from the Radisson Resort, where casual fine dining gets new meaning and the Taste of Belgium Catering Service, which takes care of all the hassles of organizing any happening, party or dinner.*

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# SPORTS

## Aruba TODAY

### Tiger Woods impressive in return at Match Play

MARANA, Ariz. — Eight months later, Tiger Woods looked as though he had never been away. Woods made a triumphant return to golf Wednesday in the Accenture Match Play Championship with a start that showed golf what it had been missing in the 253 days since he limped his way to an epic U.S. Open title.

Just past high noon in the desert, Woods fired an 8-iron into 5 feet for birdie. Then came a gentle fist pump when his 3-iron from 237 yards on the par-5 second settled 4 feet from the cup for eagle.

He closed out Brendan Jones of Australia with a 3-foot par on the 16th hole for a 3-and-2 victory.

“It felt like nothing had changed,” Woods said. “Walking down the fairway, it was like business as usual.”

But this was no ordinary day. Before thousands of fans who scurried through the high desert, eager to see every shot from the world’s No. 1 player, Woods showed no sign of the reconstructive surgery done on his left knee a week after winning the U.S. Open.

“It held up,” he said. “It felt good.”

Woods said he had looked forward to the rush of competing. It was as if all that time away from golf had

been bottled up inside him. And then it came gushing out on a scorching day on Dove Mountain, where temperatures approached 90 degrees.

Fans packed into the bleachers around the first tee, with more lined up behind the ropes all the way to the green, and the cheer when Woods walked onto the tee could be heard all the way down the fairway.

Woods backed off his tee shot, and without much expression, belted a fairway metal down the right side of the fairway.

“You are back!” one spectator shouted.

Was he ever.

He won the first two holes before some rust settled in. Woods made three bogeys over his next five holes and was leading, 1 up, until he birdied the par-5 eighth with a 6-foot putt.

Jones never got any closer. Woods seized control of the match when Jones couldn’t save par behind the green on the par-3 12th, and then Woods struck another familiar pose by raising his putter above his head as his 20-foot eagle putt dropped on the 13th.

It was the third time in five years Woods had surgery on his left knee, adding to the mystery of whether he would be as good as the player who has won 65 times on the PGA Tour, including 14 majors.

“I came back from surgery before, but never this long,” Woods said. “And it didn’t have quite the same attention.”

His return dwarfed everything else that took place in the first round at The Ritz-Carlton Club.

Stewart Cink was the second match out, and there were only a few dozen fans in the bleachers. His game with Richard Sterne was tied after 18 holes, so they headed back to the first tee — making Woods and Jones wait a few extra minutes.

This time, there wasn’t an inch of wood available in the bleachers. Fans stood four deep around the tee box, and they lined the ropes all the way to the green some 460 yards away. It was a bigger crowd than when Cink played Woods in the championship match last year.

“I just told everybody on the first tee that he’s waited eight months to play,” Cink said. “He can wait two more minutes.”

Cink wound up winning his match, one of six that required overtime.

Phil Mickelson, who blew a four-shot lead at Riviera and rallied to win three days ago, did it again. He was 4 up on Angel Cabrera with five holes to play until the Argentine caught him, but Lefty birdied



**Tiger Woods reacts to just missing a birdie putt on the 11th hole during the first round of the Accenture Match Play Championship golf tournament Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2009, in Marana, Ariz.**

*Associated Press*

the 19th hole.

Other top players were not so fortunate.

Sergio Garcia, the No. 2 seed, lost to Charl Schwartzel on the 18th hole when the Spaniard hit into the bunker and made bogey.

Third-seeded Padraig Harrington, who won the British Open and PGA Championship while Woods was away, arrived at Dove Mountain having missed his last two cuts. This was a short week, too, for he lost to Pat Perez on the 18th hole.

Anthony Kim and Camilo Villegas, the faces of the next generation hopeful of challenging Woods, had the shortest days. Kim never lost a hole in beating Lin Wen-Tang of Taiwan, 7 and 5, while Villegas beat Rod Pamplung, 7 and 6.

They were on the same course, but it sure wasn’t center court.

Cink was surprised to see even a few dozen people in the bleachers when he began his match.

“They got there early and claimed their seats for Tiger,” he said. “Because really, Tiger’s match was the only one that mattered today.”

Woods, as he has done so often in his career, gave the crowd what they came to see.

And even Jones, who appeared to be overwhelmed, got caught up in the commotion.

“As I walked off the first hole, there was just mayhem — media, and everyone was just running,” Jones said.

After Woods birdied the first hole, Jones overhead a reporter say, “Another nine holes to go for 10 and 8.” Jones did his best to make the match last as long as it did. After a lengthy wait on the 315-yard 15th, Woods hit 3-wood onto the green, and the Australian followed with a shot even closer, making eagle. Still, Jones knew his stay at Dove Mountain was not going to be a long one.

“I really wouldn’t be betting against him,” Jones said. “He hit some shots other people can’t hit.” □

### Former No. 1 Norman suggests a pay cut for golfers

BRISBANE, Australia (AP) — Greg Norman, nicknamed ‘The Great White Shark’ when he was leading the world rankings in the 1980s and 90s, thinks golfers need to take a pay cut as the global economic crisis bites.

“Prize money’s being scaled back in Europe, I wouldn’t be surprised if prize money’s scaled back in the U.S. just out of respect to every citizen and taxpayer over there who’s suffering dramatically,” the two-time British Open champion was quoted as saying Wednesday on the Australian Broadcasting Corp. website. “It seems like on the PGA Tour the players are still playing for a million dollars first week, like they’re recession-proof.

“I think there’s got to be a lot of sensitivity shown.

If I was PGA Commissioner that’s what I would be recommending.”

The average PGA Tour purse in 2008 was \$5.8 million.

Norman, 54, spent more than six years at No. 1 in the world golf rankings and built a multimillion dollar business empire that still has him ranked among Australia’s highest-earning athletes.

He plays infrequently on the big tours now, but hit the headlines last year when he led the British Open by two strokes going into the last round before finishing in a tie for third. □





**NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell speaks at a news conference for NFL football Super Bowl XLIII Friday, Jan. 30, 2009, in Tampa, Fla.**

*Associated Press*

## NFL commish takes pay cut

By DAVE GOLDBERG

AP Football Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — NFL commissioner Roger Goodell is taking a pay cut and the league staff has been trimmed by 15 percent because of the reeling economy, the NFL confirmed on Wednesday. The league said that its staff cut, announced more than two months ago, has resulted in a reduction of 169 jobs through buyouts, layoffs and other staff reductions. That amounts to just over 15 percent of the league's work force of 1,100. "All of us understand that it will continue to take collective sacrifice to get through this challenging economic environment, but these and other steps by our office and clubs will enable us to be more efficient and better positioned for future growth," league spokesman Greg Aiello said. Goodell, meanwhile, voluntarily took a cut of 20-25 percent from the \$11 million salary and bonuses he was to receive in the 2008 fiscal year, which ends on March 31. He and other league executives are freezing their salaries for 2009. The NFL announced on Dec. 9 it would reduce its staff by 10 to 15 percent. Seventy-six people took buyouts while 45 jobs were eliminated and 48 openings went unfilled. The moves affect NFL headquarters in New York, NFL Films in Mount Laurel, New Jersey, and the NFL Network in Los Angeles. Teams also are reducing expenses. The league estimates that 10 to 12 teams have laid off about 200 people total in the last few months. □

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#### Las Campeonas 10

Lot: 984 m2 / 10,591 sq.ft. Home: 128 m2 / 1,377 sq.ft. 2/2

Two bedroom & 2 bathroom cottage house, comfortably furnished. Landscaped garden and inner patio. The home has central air-conditioning. All appliances and furniture included in the sale.

**Priced at US\$500,000**

#### Las Campeonas 25

Lot: 695m2 / 7,478 sq.ft. Home: 168m2 / 1,808 sq.ft. 3/3

Most charming one story patio home with tropical garden, fully landscaped, salt-system pool and Jacuzzi with wraparound deck.

The master bedroom suite and the guest bedroom suite enjoy spectacular private views of the garden.

The upgraded kitchen with granite counter top, stainless steel appliances and mahogany finished cabinets, enjoys pool and golf course view, complementing the spacious living & dining areas. Ample custom closets and storage, central air-conditioning and ceiling fans.

Furniture and furnishings negotiated separately.

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#### Miramar • Caya Bista Lama # 26

Lot: 599 m2 / 6,448 sq.ft. Home: 161 m2 / 1,733 sq.ft. 2 / 2 ½

Cozy one story casita, 2 master suit bedrooms, 2 ½ bathrooms, with living/dining/kitchen area wide open. Includes a one-car garage and separate laundry room. Nicely landscaped, and ready for occupancy.

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#### Miramar • Caya di Biento # 3

Lot: 711m2 / 7,653 sq.ft. Home: 245.45 m2 / 2,642 sq.ft. 3/4

New construction, just-finished home. Two story home, three bedrooms, spectacular terraces, four baths, panoramic views from everywhere, includes all appliances, Italian furnishings, decorations, drip system, pool with infinity edge.

**Priced at US\$1,750,000**



### CONDOS



#### Las Rocas • Caya Baranca 14D

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This second story Las Rocas condo has 3-bedrooms and 2 full bathrooms, dining room and terrace, central air conditioning, hot water heater, stacked washer & dryer, pantry, closets and a one car garage with storage room. Enjoys great golf views and nature preserve. **Priced at US\$450,000**

#### Las Rocas • Caya Baranca 12B

130 m2 / 1,400 sq.ft. 3/2 ½

Comfortable two bedroom, 2 ½ bathroom townhouse, with kitchen, living room, dining area, walk in closet and beautiful patio overlooking hole #10 downstairs. Two spacious bedrooms, two bathrooms, walk in closets, a terrace, and stacked washer & dryer upstairs. **Priced at US\$330,000**



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week# 1-17OccidentalGrand-EX  
Studio, PoolView - US\$9,000

week# 7, - Divi Phoenix - 1Bdr  
R# 501,OceanView.-US\$11,000

week# 5 + 6-La Cabana - 1Bdr  
R#401d-OceanFront-US\$18,000

week#10+11-Renaissance -1Bdr  
R#121- poolOcean- US\$20,000

week# 7 - Renaissance - 1Bdr  
R#2537, PoolOcean-US\$15,000

week# 12 -Renaissance.-1Bdr.  
R#2327,PoolOcean-US\$11,000

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week# 8 , La Cabana -2Bdr  
R#301E,OceanFr-US\$25,000

week# 13, Renaissance-1Bdr.  
R#2544,Oceanview-US\$10,000

week# 3+4 La Cabana -2Bdr.  
R#346E,OceanFr-US\$25,000pw

week#5+6La Cabana-2Bdr.  
R#346EOceanFr-US\$25,000pw

week# 12 Costa Linda - 2Bdr.  
R#309,Oceanview- US\$18,000

week#-7,Renaissance S.- 1Bdr  
R#2537,Poolocean-US\$15,000

Platinum W#1-17.Marriott Surf.  
2Bdr,OceanSide -US\$33,000

Platinum W#1-17.Marriott Surf.  
2Bdr,OceanView US\$30,000

Week# 7,La Cabana - 1Bdr.  
Room#339,OceanFr-US\$8,000

Week# 7, La Cabana - 1Bdr  
Room#429c,OceanVi-US\$9,000

week# 9 ,La Cabana- 1Bdr delux  
R#401d, OceanFront- US\$20,000

Week# 7 Aruban Resort - 3Bdr  
R#2506a, poolv - US\$30,000

Week# 5 - DiviPhoenix - 1Bdr.  
R#613,PoolOcean-US\$18,000

Week# 6 - The Mill Resort-1Bdr  
R#220a, Poolview - US\$7,500

FloatingW#18-50 Marriott Ocean  
2Bdr, Oceanview -US\$ 20,000

PlatinumW#1-17.Marriott Ocean  
1Bdr, OceanView-US\$18,000

PlatinumW#1-17.Marriott Ocean  
1Bdr,OceanFront-US\$23,000

PlatinumW#1-17.Marriott Ocean  
2Bdr,OceanView-US\$26,000

PlatinumW#1-17.Marriott Ocean  
2Bdr,OceanFront-US\$60,000

week# 14-DiviPhoenix - Studio.  
R#1004,Oceanview - US\$5,000

week#10, DutchVillage - 2Bdr  
R#212,on the beach-US\$20,000

week# 6+7,Aruban Resort-1Bdr  
R#4541 ,Poolview-US\$8,000pw

week# 11,DutchVillage - 2Bdr.  
R#46/49,O.The B.-US\$18,000

week# 6, Costa Linda - 2 Bdr.  
R#1010,Oceanview-US\$24,000

week#9 ,La Cabana B.R.C- stu.  
R#444B,OceanPool-US\$7,000

week# 4+5,Costa Linda -2Br  
R#4019,OceanP-US\$60,000

week# 4 + 5 DiviPhoenix -studio  
R#108,Oceanfr.-US\$12,000pw

week#10, DutchVillage -1 Bdr.  
R#28 ,on the beach-US\$9,000

2x week2-17,OccidentalGr-1Bd.  
supreme,Oceanfr. - US\$35,000

week# 15,CasaDelMar- 2Bdr.  
R#1223,OceanFront-US\$20,000

week#11, DiviPhoenix -Studio.  
R#1303,OceanFront-US\$5,000

week# 4, ParadiseB.V - 2Bdr.  
R#129,Oceanfront - US\$24,000

week#8 ,Aruban Resort - 1Bdr.  
R#1537, Poolview - US\$9,000

week# 8&9,Aruban Resort,-1Bdr  
R#1519, Poolv- US\$18,000 p.w.

week# 9 - DiviLinks - Studio  
R#4205, poolv. - US\$15,000

week# 7+8- DiviLinks - Studio.  
R#4205,Poolview- US\$30,000

week#13+14 DiviPhoenix-2Bdr  
R#306,OceanV.-US\$22,000P.W

Week#8 Renaissance - 1Bdr  
R#2546,Oceanfrnt-US\$11,500

week# 9 - Renaissance - 1Bdr  
R#2438- Oceanview-US\$10,500

week# 4- DiviPhoenix - 1Bdr.  
R#1001,Oceanv- US\$10,000

week#9-DiviPhoenix-2Bdr/2bath.  
R#211,Oceanfront- US\$20,000

2xweek#1-17Occidental-Bdrsup.  
Oceanfro-US\$35,000Bothweeks

week# 3 - DiviPhoenix - 1Bdr  
R#209-OceanFront- US\$10,000

week# 5 - Aruban Resort - 1-Bdr  
R#5537g-Poolview-US\$7,000

weeks# 8, - La Cabana - 1Bdr  
R#407a,Oceanview-US\$9,000

week# 9, DutchVillage - 1Bdr  
R#123,on the beach-US\$8,000

week# 4 - DiviLinks - Studio.  
R#2108,Poolv - US\$14,000

week# 10-DiviVillage -studio  
R#3101,Poolview-US\$10,000

week# 5- DiviLinks - Studio  
R#2214,PoolV.- US\$14,000

week# 4- DiviPhoenix - 2 Bdr  
R#302,OceanFront-US\$23,000

week# 7-DiviPhoenix - studio  
R#105,OceanPo,US\$11,500

week#9+10ArubanResort -1Bdr  
R#2510,Poolview-US\$7,500p.w

week# 11-Divi village -Studio  
R#8202,Oceanview-US\$10,000

week# 5&6-La Cabana - 2Bdr  
R#440b&c,Oce/p-US\$20,000pw

week# 5 - La Cabana -1Br  
R#336a,Ocean/pool-US\$11,000

week#11,Dutchvillage- 2Bdr  
R#46&49,PoolV US\$18,000pw

week#11+12,ArubanResort-1Br  
R#2510 ,Poolview - US\$7,500

week#10.DutchVillage-1Bdr  
R#121,Poolview-US\$8,000

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# Gobierno dominicano da marcha atrás, y decide celebrar desfile en Día de la Independencia

SANTO DOMINGO (Reuters) - El Gobierno dominicano dio marcha atrás el miércoles a una decisión de suspender un tradicional desfile militar y anunció que lo celebrará pese a un escándalo que involucra a miembros de las fuerzas de seguridad en presuntos casos de delincuencia y narcotráfico.

El escándalo es un duro golpe para el Gobierno caribeño, que además debe hacer frente a la desaceleración de la economía local por la crisis financiera mundial. El director de prensa de la Presidencia, Rafael Núñez, informó que el desfile por el 165 aniversario del Día de la Independencia de República Dominicana finalmente sí será efectuado el viernes en la tarde en la avenida del Malecón de Santo Domingo. El desfile será realizado después de que el presidente Leonel Fernández pronuncie su discurso de rendición de cuentas de su último año de gestión ante el Congreso Nacional y en el cual, posiblemente, aborde la situación de las Fuerzas Armadas.

Un vocero de las Fuerzas Armadas había anunciado horas antes que el desfile

había sido suspendido por decisión del presidente Fernández.

“El discurso se celebrará como ha estado previsto tradicionalmente”, dijo Núñez sin entrar en detalles en torno a las razones por las cuales originalmente se había anunciado la suspensión.

Fuentes castrenses dijeron a Reuters que en principio no se consideró prudente la celebración del desfile por las preocupaciones expresadas por sectores de opinión pública ante la ocurrencia de repetidos casos en los que miembros de las Fuerzas Armadas y la Policía Nacional han estado implicados en la comisión de delitos, muchos vinculados al narcotráfico.

La justicia local investiga la aparente relación de un mayor de la Fuerza Aérea con el asalto a una fábrica de alimentos en el norte de Santo Domingo, en tanto que la policía arrestó a 22 de sus miembros y a tres fiscales adjuntos acusados de

complicidad con el crimen organizado y el narcotráfico en la nortea ciudad de Puerto Plata.

La Iglesia Católica, líderes empresariales y dirigentes políticos han expresado su preocupación y alarma por la frecuencia en que militares y policías activos se han visto implicados en acciones de delincuencia, muchas de ellas vinculadas con el narcotráfico.

República Dominicana es considerada la principal ruta, junto con Haití, para el tránsito de estupefacientes hacia Estados Unidos. □

Foto de archivo del presidente dominicano, Leonel Fernández, durante su discurso frente a la Asamblea General de Naciones Unidas en la sede del organismo en Nueva York, 24 sep 2008. Fernández, suspendió un tradicional desfile militar por el día de la independencia nacional, en medio de un escándalo que involucra a miembros de las fuerzas de seguridad en presuntos casos de delincuencia y narcotráfico. REUTERS/Mike Segar



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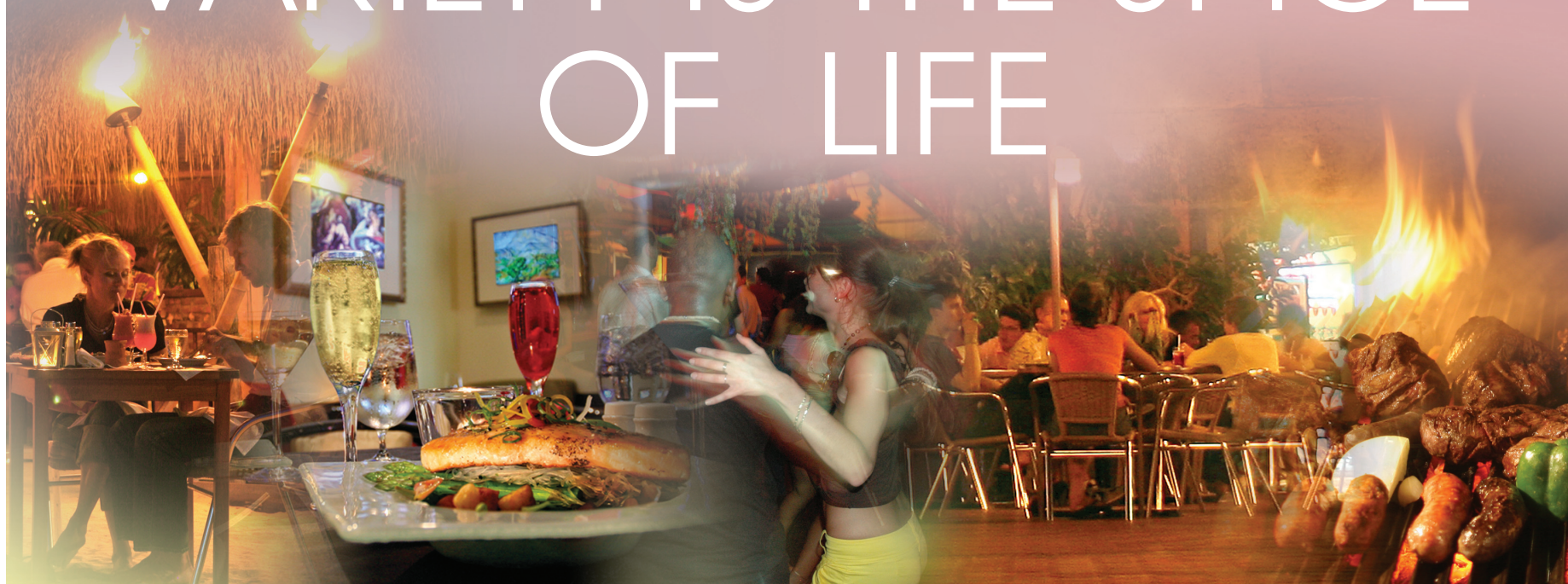
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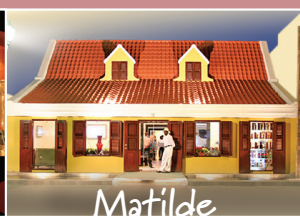
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